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Maine Writers Correspondence

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September 2015

Harriet Evatt Correspondence

Harriet Evatt 1891-1983

Hilda McLeod Jacob

Maine State Library

Maine State Library

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EVATT, HARRIET

August 28, 1947

Miss Harriet Evatt
c/o Bobbs-Merrill Company
724 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis 7, Indiana

Dear Miss Evatt:

The announcement of publication of your book, MYSTERY OF THE OLD MERCHANT'S HOUSE, fills us with delight, and we hasten to add our congratulations and good wishes to those of your friends.

We are constantly alert to good stories for inclusion in our traveling libraries that serve the entire state, especially the small rural communities; and the mention of a Maine background further excites our attention.

Is it possible to claim you as a Maine author? We are prompted to ask because of the Maine Author Collection, a permanently cared for exhibit of books by Maine people, those resident here or using the state as a setting for their books. About fifteen hundred volumes are here now, inscribed and presented and attracting much interest from visitors and students. This collection is quite separate from the traveling libraries or the individual loan section of the library, being permanently in the library, retained as a unit, and most useful to those interested in Maine books and writers.

The content of the books reflects a wide variety of abilities and backgrounds; and the inscriptions are so unusual (tributes to Maine, autobiographical anecdotes, bits of original verse, a paragraph about the writing of the book, pen-and-ink sketches, for instance) that the exhibit is a remarkable representation of Maine's contribution to literature.

We sincerely hope that you will want to inscribe a copy of MYSTERY OF THE OLD MERCHANT'S HOUSE for the collection. It would give us pleasure to place it on these shelves. Please accept our good wishes for the book, and our cordial invitation to call at the library and see the Maine Author Collection when you are again in this vicinity.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj
Encl.

74 East Kanawha Avenue
Worthington, Ohio

Sept. 16, 1947

Dear Mrs. Jacob:

I thank you so much for your
nice letter concerning my book "The
Mystery of the Old Merchant's House."

I am deeply honored to have it
included in the Maine Author Collec-
tion and am sending a copy to
you under separate cover.

My association with your beautiful
state has been through delightful
vacations filled with many happy
memories.

Sincerely
Harriet Evatt

October 23, 1947

Miss Harriet Evatt
74 East Kanawha Avenue
Worthington, Ohio

Dear Miss Evatt:

It is with hesitation that we write to say the copy of THE MYSTERY OF THE OLD MERCHANT'S HOUSE which you so kindly wrote you were sending to the Maine Author Collection has not yet arrived.

The book is going into our traveling libraries, and we have since writing to you had an opportunity to read it and to enjoy the illustrations, and the fine picture of a happy family life which you have woven into the story, a story which should be very popular with young readers who like a little mystery. It is a charming book, and we wish it a warm reception and lively success.

We trust that the delay in the arrival of the collection copy is not due to loss in the mail. We look forward eagerly to placing the book in the exhibit, and we hope that one day we may welcome its author back to Maine.

Sincerely yours

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

hmj

October 28, 1947

Miss Harriet Evatt
74 East Kanawha Avenue
Worthington, Ohio

Dear Miss Evatt:

Probably before our letter of October 23 reached you, THE MYSTERY OF THE OLD MERCHANT'S HOUSE was on its way, for it arrived yesterday afternoon, neatly packaged and attractively wrapped.

Please accept our thanks for your interest in the Maine Author Collection, for the pleasant inscription, and for writing such a really good book!

We are delighted with the story, and with the opportunity to add it, through your gracious gift, to the collection.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection